

DAP LANGUAGE ARTS

DAP LANGUAGE ARTS SHOULD:

Provide experiences to expand vocabulary.
Provide opportunities to draw and print.
Include songs, finger plays, games, poems and stories.

THE TEACHER SHOULD:

Talk to the children.
Read to the children.
Encourage children to describe ideas and events that are important to them.

DAP LANGUAGE ARTS SKILLS

Skill	Sample Activities
LISTENING	Listening to story books, show and tell
SPEAKING	Retelling stories, answering questions, finger plays
RHYMING	Rhyming games
WRITING	Writing name, writing letters, writing words
READING	Predicting story events, putting story events in order, environmental print activities, identify labels, identifying letters of the alphabet

WRITING A RATIONALE

*Your language arts center must teach one of the language arts skills on this handout

Rationale Stem:

This language arts center is DAP because it helps children develop the language arts skill of _____.

READING ALOUD

GETTING THE MOST BENEFIT

- *Ask warm up questions
- *Discuss during reading
- *Connect to child
- *Ask open ended follow up questions
- *Involve the child

READ ALOUD SKILLS

- *Sit on the same level as child
- *Make sure the child can see illustrations
- *Maintain eye contact
- *Use facial and verbal expression
- *Explain new words

FINGER PLAYS

- *Action rhymes that use fingers to act out words
- *provide relaxations and involvement for child
- *Intellectual development as they memorize
- *Great opportunity to get the wiggles out
- *They are more effective if you memorize them.

Early Literacy and Language

WAYS to LEARN LETTERS... Without Holding a Pencil

1. RAINBOW TRACE the letters. Have the student trace the upper and lower case letters using 5 different color of crayons.
2. Use MAGNETIC LETTERS to sequence and match letters. Practice forming their names and simple words.
3. Use FELT LETTERS or alphabet cards to sequence and match letters.
4. Put plastic letters in a FEEL BAG or BOX and let the children guess what letter they are feeling.
5. Paint letters on an EASEL / FINGER- PAINT letters.
6. Write letters with your finger in many different mediums:
 - cornmeal, sand, pudding (dry or prepared), foam soap, bird seed, shaving cream, colored sand, baggie with paint in it
7. Glue VARIOUS ITEMS (beans, noodles, cloth, cotton balls, miniature marshmallows, rice or paper) to make mosaic in the shape of letters.
8. Use PUSH PINS to outline letters
9. Build letters with Play DOUGH, pretzel, or bread dough
10. MASKING TAPE or ROPE to make letters on the floor and have children:
 - Trace letter with their feet, Walk or crawl on them following the path of the letter, Drive toy cars on them, Follow the shape of the letter by "painting" with a paint roller paint, Roll them out with rolling pins, Hop or jump along the letter lines
11. Make TACTILE ALPHABET CARDS for matching (visually or by touch) and trace with:
 - Colored glue, Yarn and glue, Dry Jell-O and glue, Puff paint, Glue and sand, cornmeal, etc.(NOTE: you can make the tactile alphabet cards by either cutting out alphabet shapes from cardboard and covering it with the tactile media or by "writing" the letter with glue and covering that area with the tactile media.)
12. WRITE letters on"
 - Magna-doodles, Black/Green boards, Dry-erase white boards, Paper with sandpaper under it, Paper with a bumpy board under it
 - Clay / Dough trays (Styrofoam meat tray- washed with play dough/clay spread on it. Use a pencil to write letters in the clay. Store in Ziplock bags
13. SORT LETTERS
Make alphabet soup with objects and pictures that only begin with the letter and sound.
14. Play "GONE FISHING" with alphabet cards. Fish for letters using a homemade fishing pole with a magnet hanging on a string. Letter cards can have paperclips placed on them.
15. Complete an ALPHABET PUZZLE of all the letters or sequence alphabet cards.

16. Make ALPHABET CARDS and CUT THEM IN HALF. Have students match them.
17. Have students match UPPER and LOWER CASE alphabet letters. Write these on a plastic egg and then match them.
18. FIND LETTERS in PRINTED MATERIAL (newspaper articles, magazines, books, on cereal boxes and other household items.)
19. HIDE LETTERS in sand, rice and beans, or birdseed and have the students find them and identify them by feeling and then looking.
20. Make an ABC BOOK by cutting out pictures from old magazines that start with a given letter.
21. SPONGE PAINT letters
22. Play "I SPY" with letters. For example: "I spy the letter "R" hiding on this page": "I spy a word that begins with the letter "S". Then have the student look to find the letter or word.
23. Play CONCENTRATION or MEMORY with letter cards. Place cards face down. Each student takes a turn by turning over two cards. If they match they are removed. If they don't match, the cards are turned over again and the next student plays. Using as many or as few matching letters that you want. (AaBbCcEeDd or the whole alphabet.)
24. Make BODY LETTERS. Give several students a letter to make. Have the students use their bodies to form the letters. They may try doing this standing or laying on the floor. Have other students guess the letter.
25. Sew letters by making your own LACING CARDS in the shape of letters or having the students sew their names onto colored burlap.
26. Play "GUESS A LETTER". Give clues about a letter and have students guess the letter. "I am thinking of a letter that is short, and comes after d in the alphabet." "I am thinking of the letter that "cat " starts with." "I am thinking of the letter that makes the sound 'dah'." Ask the students to tell the name and the sound of the letter.
27. Play "WHAT LETTER IS MISSING". Sequence alphabet cards from A-Z. Remove several letters and have students guess what letter is missing. ABC EF HIJ LMN
28. Alphabet Cereal or dry alphabet pasta
29. Hopscotch with letters or words on it and you say the letter or sound.
30. Sky write letters in the air using your finger or a streamer
31. Make dice with letters on it and you say the sound or a word for that letter.
32. Geo board letters: hammer nails into a square board. Put the nails fairly close and in a line. Use a rubber band to hook around the nail to make letters (shapes, numbers...)
33. Go fish for letters
34. Guess who I am? I have 2 slanted lines and a bar in the middle = A

35. Letter or Name Book

o Idea 1: Write a letter on each page of a paper and staple them together. Search through a magazine to find pictures of each of those letters.

o Idea 2: Write 1 letter in your name on each page of a paper. Staple them together. Search through a magazine to find pictures of each of those letters.

36. Laminate letters or copy them onto a transparency and have them trace them with their finger or a marker.

37. Write a "letter" to..... do not worry about what it looks like or if there are any letters formed.

38. Iron a Letter Fold your paper in ½ hot dog style. In crayon, write your name or a letter along the fold of the paper – keep all letters ABOVE the folded line being careful NOT to write below the folded line. (TRACE and RETRACE so it is dark.) Fold the paper over and iron the paper. The wax from the crayon will melt onto the other side of the paper and leave a stamp.

39. MORE Letter ideas:

A - ants: fingerprint the 3 body parts, add legs and antennae with a marker, Apple prints: cut an apple in ½ and dip it in paint, alligator stamps or drawings	B -band aides: give each child 3 band aides for their 'b', Blow up a balloon and dip it in paint. Paint the 'b', Find the letter B's in birdseed or glue on birdseed, blue paint
C - Cover with cotton prints or stamp with cotton prints, Confetti glued all over the C, Color in chalk. Can trace it and then smear the edges, trace the letter in cornmeal or glue it on.	D -use dot markers or make dots or hole punch dots - glue on a doily
E elbow paint by dipping elbow in paint and painting, eye dropper painting with water colors and an eye dropper	F Finger painting, Glue on feathers or foam pieces, paint with a feather
G glitter and glue, make big Glue dots, green paint, draw a picture with glue and let it draw and then water color paint over it.	H handprints, Glue on hearts
I ink stamp pads, draw insects, paint with ice cubes	J jewels glued on, jack-o-lantern die cuts, pieces on jeans
K Key rubbing with key under the letter "K", paint with a key, trace the key	L -assorted punched or foam letters glued on, lacing card L
M make a mouse thumbprint, marble paint, draw with a marker	N -newspaper cut up and glued on, nail polish painting on the N
O googly eyes "O" on paper, glue circle pasta or cereal, hope punches	P -Penny rubbing under the letter "P", paint the letter, push pin outline the letter
Q Quarter rubbing, Q-tip painting, Glue on Fabric scraps to make a quilt letter	R Rainbow letter – use a handful of crayons at the same time and color. Can use them one at a time to make a rainbow. Ripped paper glued on.

S Sticker the letter, Stamps, Sponge paint, shaving cream paint	T Glue on toothpicks, make triangles out of toothpicks, Tissue paper dye, toothbrush painting, paper tear and glue it on
U Take a picture of child hanging upside down and glue it on. Color the U upside down. Draw upside down pictures.	V Glue on velvet fabric scraps, glue on valentine hearts
W Watercolor paint, worm paint with yarn	X Make a xylophone out of the letter with paper scraps, glue q-tips on to look like bones for an X-ray.
Y Glue on yellow yarn, draw foods that are yucky to you.	Z Zipper rubbing, draw zig-zags on the letter, use rick rack

Alphabet Day

A - Alphabet Day bring something that starts with the same letter as your name.	B – backwards day wear your clothes backwards.
G – gum chewing and blowing contest	D – dinosaur day
H – hat day	J – jeans and jersey day
P – pj day	W – wacky hair day

Language

○ Storyteller game: have everyone draw a picture or write words of nouns and adjectives. Place the cards face down. First person turns over a card and begins to tell a 3-5 sentence story based on the picture. Each person take turns choosing a card and using that picture / word to continue the story.

○ Draw a picture of anything and tell a story about it.

Write an illustrated mini Story, Poem, or Nursery Rhyme

○ Have the kid color a picture and you write what they say the story is about.

- 1. Starburst Game:** Write a question for each color of starburst and one extra. Give each student two starbursts. Have them answer/tell the class things about them according to what colors of starburst they have. You can tailor the questions to whatever class you are teaching. If you don't have starburst—you can use any type of candy that you would like. (Skittles, m&m's, laffy taffy etc.) Some questions that you can use with starbursts are: Red: what is your favorite food? Yellow: what is your favorite color? Orange: what is your favorite sport? Pink: what is your most embarrassing moment? Two of the same color: what is your favorite author?
- 2. Toilet Paper Game:** Pass around a roll of toilet paper. Have the students take as much as they would like, but at least 1 square. After all the students have toilet paper, tell them that they have to tell everyone one thing about themselves for each square of toilet paper. If you buy 2-ply then they have to tell you 2 things for each square. Go around the classroom until you have learned new things about everyone. As a wrap up—you can point to a person and see if anyone can recall what they said and give them a treat or prize if you need more time or a time filler.
- 3. Human Knot:** Have everyone bunch up together and grab two different hands. They have to introduce themselves to each person they are holding hands with and then they have to work together to untangle themselves without letting go of each other's hands. You can split them into teams and then have them tell each other interesting facts about each other as they untangle. They have to tell one cool thing they learned about each person in the group to the class. Can work for a team building activity, introduction game or communication activity.
- 4. Cinnamon Roll:** Have the students hold hands every other person facing the opposite direction until everyone is holding hands. Then have the students start to roll up like a cinnamon roll without letting go of each others hands. Have the center person get out without letting go of the hand they are holding—as they pass people—have them introduce themselves. Can be used to get to know each other or a team building activity.
- 5. Get to know me:** Have the students fill out the "get to know me" paper. You can use the one online or create your own. Ask them to fill them out without telling their friends what they put. When you have spare time in a class—read one of the out loud to the class without telling them who the person is. Have the class guess who the student is—if they can't guess within 3 guesses then the person who is spotlighted stands up. You can use treats with this game—if they guess the person without shouting it out they get a treat and the person who is spotlighted gets a treat as well. If they can't guess within 3 guesses then the spotlighted person gets 2 treats. They like it with treats and it motivates them to fill out all the questions on the form. You can tailor this to fit any classes. For foods I would ask them what is their favorite food, favorite dessert, what they would like to make someday out of food, if they could try any food it would be...etc. Fun way to get to know your students throughout the year, one day in class or over any period of time.

6. **Spider Web:** Take a scan of yard and roll it into a ball. Have the students tell their name and one thing about themselves and throw the ball of yarn to another student who hasn't had it yet while they hold on to the yarn—keep going until everyone has had a chance to catch the yarn. You can talk about how we are all different yet, have things in common—or you can go backwards with the yarn and see if they can remember what everyone said and roll up the yarn as you go.
7. **Brown Paper Bags:** Have the students bring in a sack with 5 items that describe them. Have them stand up in front of the class—show them the items and introduce themselves. You can have the student's pair up and intro each other showing the items as well.
8. **Repetition Game:** Stand in a circle and have the students say their name and then an item that starts with the letter of their first name—keep repeating the names and items until you have gone around the whole circle. See if there is anyone who can go through the whole class without any help—you can give a prize to the person who can do it.
9. **2 truths and a lie:** Have each student write 2 truths about themselves and 1 lie. Have them tell the class what they came up with and then have the class try and guess which one is the lie. Then you can have them explain the truths or tell other things about themselves. Fun way to get to know interesting facts about each other.
10. **Pair /share:** Have the student's pair up. Each pair of students interviews each other and then they introduce their partner to the class.
11. **Parent intros:** Have parents write an introduction about their student and then you can read the statement from the parents and have them guess who the person is.
12. **Poems:** have the students write out their name and come up with characteristics that describe them using each letter of their name. Have the students present their poems or display them around the classroom.
13. **Personal Portrait:** Have the students draw a picture of themselves and include their favorite colors, foods etc in the portrait—have them share their pictures with the class and then display them.
14. **Food comparison:** have the students pick a food that best describes them and present it to the class. They can write it or draw it and then display it in the classroom. (You can do the comparison with anything you would like to fit any class.)